

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ANKARA 04807 240936Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SS-15 NSC-05 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07
NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 /050 W
-----072068 240944Z /10

R 240610Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY ANKARA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7942
INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMCONSUL ADANA
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL
AMCONSUL IZMIR

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E.O. 11652: NA
TAGS: PFOR, TU
SUBJECT: VISIT TO ANKARA OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON AMERICAN
FOREIGN POLICY

1. THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY GROUP
WHICH VISITED ANKARA JUNE 22-23, WAS GIVEN EXTRAORDINARILY
WARM RECEPTION BY GOT. MFA NOT ONLY ARRANGED BRIEF MEETING
WITH NEWLY NAMED FONMIN OKCUN, IT ALSO GAVE LUNCHEON FOR
NCAFP WHICH WAS ATTENDED BY FONMIN, DEFENSE MINISTER ISIK,
MINISTER OF STATE BULUTOGLU (ALL OF WHOM HAD BEEN IN OFFICE
LESS THAN 24 HOURS) AND VIRTUALLY ALL SENIOR OFFICIALS FROM
THE FOREIGN MINISTRY INCLUDING SECGEN ELEKDAG AND FOUR
DEPUTY SECGENS.

2. EVENING OF JUNE 22, PRIMIN ECEVIT RECEIVED THE GROUP
FOR A TEN-MINUTE COURTESY CALL WHICH LASTED FOR ONE HOUR.

3. AS A RESULT, NCAFP GROUP LEFT ANKARA JUNE 23 NOT ONLY
DELIGHTED WITH THEIR STAY IN ANKARA, BUT DEEPLY IMPRESSED
BY PRIMIN ECEVIT, THE CABINET MINISTERS AND MFA OFFICIALS
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PAGE 02 ANKARA 04807 240936Z

THEY HAD MET. ECEVIT TOOK ADVANTAGE OF THE MEETING WITH THE
NCAFP GROUP TO SEND (AT THEIR REQUEST) A MESSAGE TO THE
AMERICAN PEOPLE. EMBASSY DOES NOT HAVE TEXT OF MESSAGE,
BUT NCAFP WAS HOPEFUL THAT THEY WOULD BE ABLE TO PLACE IT
WITH WIRE SERVICES SOME TIME JUNE 23. FROM WHAT EMBASSY
HAS BEEN TOLD OF MEETING BY THE NCAFP, ECEVIT DID NOT SAY
ANYTHING PARTICULARLY NEW OR STRIKING. HE DID, HOWEVER,

VERY CONVINCINGLY EXPLAIN HIS VISION OF A STRONGER, MORE INDEPENDENT TURKEY WHICH WILL BE ABLE TO MAINTAIN ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH THE WEST (BUT BE LESS BEHOLDEN TO THE WEST) WHILE PLAYING AN INCREASINGLY LARGE ROLE IN REGIONAL AFFAIRS AND IMPROVING ITS RELATIONSHIP WITH ITS NEIGHBORS. ECEVIT REASSURED GROUP THAT HE WAS AWARE OF THE DELICATE POWER BALANCE IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN AND THAT HE WOULD NOT DO ANYTHING TO UPSET THAT BALANCE. HE REAFFIRMED TURKEY'S COMMITMENT TO NATO WHILE WISTFULLY NOTING THAT IT WOULD BE EASIER TO MAINTAIN THAT COMMITMENT IF THE EUROPEAN MEMBERS OF NATO PLAYED A LARGER ROLE. HE ALSO SAID HE CONSIDERED HIS MOST IMPORTANT FOREIGN POLICY GOAL TO BE THE REESTABLISHMENT OF A MUTUALLY PRODUCTIVE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE US.

4. THE NCAFP VISIT GAVE TURKS OPPORTUNITY TO EXPRESS TURKEY'S VIEWS TO A POTENTIALLY INFLUENTIAL GROUP OF PRIVATE AMERICAN CITIZENS. THEY USED THAT OPPORTUNITY TO ADVANTAGE. THE VISIT ALSO PROVIDED EMBASSY WITH AN OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH THREE MEMBERS OF THE NEW CABINET. (DEFENSE MINISTER ISIK IS A FAMILIAR FIGURE AND NOTHING NEW OR UNUSUAL DEVELOPED DURING CONVERSATIONS WITH HIM.) FONMIN OKCUN IN HIS MEETING WITH THE GROUP AND IN HIS CONVERSATIONS WITH EMBOFFS WAS APPROPRIATELY CAUTIOUS GIVEN HIS BRIEF TIME IN OFFICE AND THE FACT THAT THE GOVERNMENT HAS NOT GAINED A VOTE OF CONFIDENCE. NEVERTHELESS, HE EXPRESSED HOPE ABOUT THE FUTURE OF THE TURKISH-US RELATIONSHIP.

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PAGE 03 ANKARA 04807 240936Z

BULUTOGLU, WHO LIKE THE FONMIN IS A NEWLY ELECTED DEPUTY, WAS UNTIL RECENTLY A PROFESSOR OF ECONOMICS AT ISTANBUL UNIVERSITY. FROM 1972 TO 1974, HE WAS IN WASHINGTON WORKING FOR THE INTERNATIONAL BANK OF RECONSTRUCTION AND DEVELOPMENT. AS A RESULT OF THIS BACKGROUND, HIS PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITY WITHIN THE NEW GOVERNMENT WILL BE TO DEAL WITH INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC INSTITUTIONS, INCLUDING THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND. BULUTOGLU IMPRESSED EMBOFFS AS AN ABLE AND PERSONAL YOUNG TECHNOCRAT WHO SHOULD BE A GREAT ASSET TO THE ECEVIT GOVERNMENT.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: VISITS, SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 24-Jun-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Format: TEL
From: ANKARA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770620/aaaaarok.tel
Line Count: 105
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Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: aa664977-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
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Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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Subject: VISIT TO ANKARA OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY
TAGS: PFOR, OTRA, US, TU, NATL COMM AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/aa664977-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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